TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I have read everything contained in your straight up-and-down journal having a bearing on the strike now on in the anthracite coal recions since its inauguration, and desire to add my appreciation of the honest stand you have I trust you will grant me a little space to air my views in your columns. Much as already been written pro and con regarding this strike, but after all not the half has et been told. Those living away from the coal regions hearing, or reading of an occasional shooting or dynamiting, can have no idea of the real condition of affairs. Talk about the French Revolution! Why,

we have had just that very thing here for the past five months and the end is not yet, while the State officers are making little or no effort choose, the protection they need to return to mine workers who have long since tired of the strike and are anxious to return. I am miner myself, having been employed for vanua company, and as such am interested tages of the mine worker and ameliorate his condition generally: yet I cannot bring myself to the point of accepting the prin-ciples of the United Mine Workers of America as they now stand, practiced by Mitchell and his lieutenants. When ready to do that then I must cast aside all self-esteem, sense of honor and respect for law and order and abandon myself to the life of an avowed Anarchist and become a general desperado equipped with a billy, revolver and three or four sticks of dynamite in my pocket ready to shoot down my brother man and blow up his little home, representing years of saving and toil, perchance sending its precious cargo of wife and children to their death. This is no wild painted picture, but drawn true to life and what we have seen and heard almost daily for five months past. It is certainly beyond comprehension why

certain New York and Philadelphia papers can be so sordid and lost to all decency as to countenance this condition of things and encourage its continuance by deliberately misrepresenting affairs. man John Mitchell into the peaceful valleys of the anthracite coal regions is responsible for the commission of more crime than the combined careers of the notorious outlaws, Frank and Jesse James, Cole, Bob and Jim Younger, and any other ten bandits or outlaws nown in the history of this country; while the teaching of his organization has done more to demoralize the social condition of the mine worker than any other agency could do.

No one not living here can have the least conception of the awful havoc that has been wrought by this iniquitous society. Families have been torn apart, fraternal organizations invaded and dissension created to such a degree that men and women hitherto living blessed peace have jumped to one another's throats, ready to commit murderthis in God's own house. In addition to this is the use of that most pernicious of weapons-the boycott. It is boycott in every-thing and everywhere-in the schools, in the churches and in business. Let a man utter one word that can be construed as derogatory to the cause of the strikers and he is a marked man. More than one business man has been brought to the verge of bankruptcy through the evil machinations of this devilish boycott.

Only last week a child of a non-union man died in this city; immediately thereafter a number of women holding membership in same church as the father and mother of and demanded that he should not officiate graceful scene was witnessed in one of the principal Sunday schools of our city, when several women refused to sit in the same class with a fine, respectable young woman against whom the breath of scandal never blew, because she was the daughter of a man who returned to work in order to earn money enough to pay off the interest of a mortgage hanging over his little property. On Monday the pupils of School 13 in this city rebelled and walked out of the room of a female teacher because a relative of hers was a non-union employee. I could go on almost without end citing just such cases, so numerous are they.

almost without end citing just such cases, so numerous are they.

Miners who are members of this nefarious organization tell me, and I know them to be truthful, law-abiding men, that the oath prescribed for admission to this order makes them

organization tell me, and I know ment to be truthful, law-abiding men, that the oath prescribed for admission to this order makes them nothing short of rank, downright Anarchists, ready and willing to shoot down men cold-bloodedly in their tracks who dare to exercise their right of liberty.

John Mitchell tells you that there is no want or suffering among the men and that they are able to hold out all winter, which is a dastardly lie, for I know personally of many families whose pantries are empty down to the last crumb, who suffer the pangs of hunger, whose never-ending prayer to God is that the strike may speedily pass away. I have heard of scores of families right here in this city who have tasted nothing for weeks but bread and water. Talk about mortality among the children of the poor in the slums of New York during the hot summer months! It is not a circumstance to the mortality list of the children in the coal regions during the past summer, that of this city of Scranton alone more than doubling, and all for the want of food and medicine. A well-known physician of this city a few days ago informed me that the poverty of the people was simply appalling. Dozens of times, he says, he has been called to attend the wife or child of a miner whom he found had nothing in the house in the way of food or nourishment, let alone money with which to buy medicine. And all of this is the result of what John Mitchell is pleased to term a fight for principle waged in behalf of the down-trodden miner. More to the point would it be to call it a fight for the extermination of poor, helpless women and children. With so much suffering in the summer, what will it be when the snows of winter fall if this strike should be prolonged till then?

John Mitchell says that he is opposed to

John Mitchell says that he is opposed to

and children. With so much suffering in the summer, what will it be when the supposed to the summer, what will it be when the supposed to the summer of the summer surprising crine and outlawly steady to the summer surprising crine and outlawly setuposed from: but after all John's talk there is no abatement of crine. Oh no! But what is more surprising crine and outlawly setuposed from the summer surprisions. Either John says one thing in public and tell the miners another in private, or else he is losing his grip with the mention of the leaders lendsupport to their contention that they are opposed to introduce the latter theory. Nor do any of the actions of the leaders lendsupport to their contention that they are opposed to introduce which the summer summer of the leaders lendsupport to their contention that they are opposed to introduce the latter theory. Nor do any of the actions of the leaders lendsupport to their contention that they are opposed to introduce the latter theory in the leaders lendsupport to their contention ment. The locals also private which prolong the strike, are by the latter than the summer of the leaders lendsupport to their content of the leaders lendsupport to the content of the leaders lendsupport to murder, and the lendsupport to the collection specified to the lendsupport to murder and t

will tell you that the work there is too hard and the pay too small. That being the case, what reason has John Mitchell for allowing soft coal miners, whose average earnings run only from \$1.75 to \$2.50 per day, to sign a contract for a year, while he orders out the hard coal miners, whose daily earnings run from \$2.50 to \$1.60 per day? A favorite method of showing to the public the average earning of the miner is to take the sum total of employees and divide it into the total wages paid to all classes, and, of course, that will greatly reduce the miners' wage. That is done to mislead and deceive. They do not tell you that the slate picker boy's pay of 60 cents to 60 cents a day and that of the doorhoy, whose wages are 65 to 75 cents, are included, or that the road laborer of \$1.50 per day or the driver boy who earns from \$1.10 up to \$1.75 per day, depending upon his duties, are included. To show up the average wages of the various classes of mine workers, each class should be taken separate; thus, first, the miners; second, the laborers; then brattice or timber men, then track layers, company laborers, runners, drivers, helpers and doorboys. On the outside each class should be taken separate; for it is not fair to expect the thirteen-year-old boy should earn as much as the forty or litty-year-old man, or that the unskilled earn as much as skilled labor.

While the mine workers and their families

skilled labor. While the mine workers and their families are suffering for the barest necessities of life. John Mitchell is enjoying life like a king at the Hotel Hart in Wilkes-Barre. A few weeks ago two peaceable miners from the nearby town of Olyphan, some

at the Hotel Hart in Wilkes-Barre.

A few weeks ago two peaceable miners from the nearby town of Olyphant, some seven or eight miles away, walked in to thisely, and about noon, feeling somewhat hungry after their long and dusty tramp, entered the Scranton House and called for a ham sandwich and glass of beer apiece. They could afford no more, for all the money they had was 20 cents apiece. They looked around, and there at an adjoining table sat three or four of the big leaders of the United Mine Workers regally; themselves with the best the market afforded and washing it down with Munm's Extra bry.

It is high time that the carnage of blood and destruction be stemmed. Some means will have to be adopted to awaken the State officials from their lethargy or fearful losses, both in life and property, will ensue. It seems to me as though such measures ought to be enacted as will pur a stop to the high-handed methods of this organization in tramping all law under foot. How long would the authorities of New York city permit Johann Most or Emma Goldman to preach the damnable doctrine of anarchy and openly incite their followers to commit murder der and destroy property? Not long. I think. Then why are the leaders of this order permitted to go unpunished? The vellow rag journals of New York and Philadelpha are to a great extent responsible for the present condition of affairs, and there ought to be a live making the publication of lies and distorting of facts in the public press a crime. Not one whit better are some of the dailes in this city, the editors and proprietors of which deserve to be given a cont of tar and feathers.

OLD MINER.

Contributions for Self-Injury.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The union laborers of the country are being uged to contribute, and are contributing, of their savings to the prolongation of the coal strike. What is the significance of this request What do such contributions mean?

That request signifies that men, refusing to work at wages averaging \$3.50 a day, are asking other industrious men, the large majority of whom receive a much lower wage, to give of their smaller earnings to support them, the miners, in their refusal to go to work at the high wages awaiting

Women and Letter Writing.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sic: Mrs. F., who takes you up so acrimoniously in to-day's SUN about your very excellent short editorial on relatives widely scattered in this country who do not write to each other, eats oo much meat, or combines lobster salad with tutti-frutti ice cream at luncheon You say that women are or should be the letter writers. You are quite right. She their relatives than men do: if they have more time and opportunity to write. First, last and always, women are more facile and interesting letter writers than men. An average stupid womae, as dry as overdone grilled ones in conversation, manages in some way to write a chatty, sunshiny letter that lifts he receiver right out of the humdrum of every-day business or household care, and why? Because she gossips. Mark you, there's a vast difference between gossip and magnetism is a cossip. There's no getting around that. We don't want brilliant fights of oratory and learned opinions on the interesting things of the day in our letters. What we want is rossip pure and simple a word about John Jones and another about Sally Smith, who is dead and buried and married and born: who has made money and who has bost it; who has joined the church and who has been turned out; the name of the belle of the last bail and, oh, what joy we take at sight of the name of the wall-flower! We want to hear if the eldest born made the football team at college, and whether the youngest had a very hard time getting her first toofen-peg, and it is the women folks who can give these things down with a fine of tender compassion for this one and magnetism is a cossip. There's no getting

set the caused of a will pear a sign to the built be included in the combination of New York (if yet to be included the combination of New York (if yet to be included to b

more comfortable, but nothing that arouses his mentality or interest in any way. What in the name of Tom Sawyer Mrs. K. F. means when she says that those women who find letterwriting the most difficult task they have to perform also find it the most unremunerative is beyond the penetration of any of our soap bubbles. Who expects to get paid for writing letters to kinderation and triends? Would she establish a scale of



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hair, ever compounded. MILLIONS USB CUTICURA BOAP, assisted by MILLIONS USE CUTICURA BOAP, assisted by CUTICURA CHYMENT, for preserving, purifying and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scaip and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes and irritations, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. Seid throughout the world. Soar, Me., Olyvunert, Mr., Fills, Me., British Depot: # Sc. Charterbooms Sq., London. Freesh lepot: & Red is Faix, Paris. Fortus Dune and Cana. Conr., Seic Frees. prices—so much for a letter of marital congratulation and double the sum for one of condolence and so on? Think of the happiness that would thus be snatched from the poor and hard-ups. In the name of sentiment let us leave sordidness out of the pleasant business of writing letters.

EVA PETTY-SHEARN.

CEDARHURST, L. L. Sept. 22

THE COLLEGE TEAMS.

Argument for Ending the Quarrels Over Professionalism by Abolishing Restrictions. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: One football row is now in sight as the result of Harvard's announced purpose of playing on her eleven a man who acknowledged that he played baseball for his expenses eight years ago, and by the time the ball is put in play for the first of the intercollegiate games there will be other men in the fleid whos eligibility may be questioned under the present rules. Technically this Harvard player is, by his own confession, debarred as a professional. Since he earned his expenses by playing baseball, however, he has fitted himself for and entered college, a ism in athletics. Presumably he is not spendas a professional athlete. Such ball playing to his real purpose in life. His case is similar year, and to that of many other men who have come under the ban of professionalism

as defined by the intercollegiate rules. meaning of the term? Is professionalism in athletics compatible with the scholarship regulations imposed by every Eastern college on the men who represent it on its athletic teams? There have been cases of col-lege men who have graduated into professional baseball teams, but they are few. The great majority of these young men who struggle on the cinder-path, the gridiron or the diamond for the bonor of their various colleges are preparing for a business or a professional career. In suggesting that

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of the mightiest monarch of the world crossed the ocean to see him and to honor in him the whole American people. Every day brings more evidence that Kaiser Wilhelm is a true admirer of our good people and the American spirit. I have confidence in Mr. Roosevelt's sagacity and firmly believe that he will also find means to prevent that in America a monument is raised which must appear to all visiting Germans, royal Princes or business men as an insult to their national monarchical institutions and feelings, as an everlasting ovation tendered to mutiny and treason to the flag. The high-treasoners have been forgiven in Germany, but this does not authorize other nations to erect monuments to them. I do not believe that our people will make such a big mistake.

An American Cidzen.

"The Cuckon Is a Small Rird." TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: "Sweet William" or "The Cuckoo," is not "Hoosier made poetry.
Albert Ropp only copied it for his sweetheart, Mis Gross, and he did not copy it correctly. Denis A McCarthy heard it twenty years ago in Tipperar;

but my mother sang it to me more than sevent years ago in old Onondaga, N. V. An unconscious lover might do for a gross Indiana girl, bu sclous lover might do for a gross Indiana girl, but when my grandmother was a girl she wanted a conscious lover, and she sang "An Inconstant lover no maiden can trust." Now, the gross Hoosler girl would not "sit and talk to Sw et William from dark to daylight." either. This song is very sweet and very old. No doubt, it was sung in England and Ireland before it came to America.

Does anybody know who wrote it! I know the song and the time, but I never knew who composed either words or music. It is one of the things handed down to us from a former generation.

MOUNT VEENON, N. Y.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN Sir! Mr. G. F. Northall. in "English Folk Rhymes" (London, Kegan, Paul, French, Trübner & Co., 1892), places t thus:

"The cuckoo's a bonny bird, he whistles as he files. He brings us good tidings, he tells us no lies; He sucks little birds' eggs to make his voice clear, And never sings cuckoo till summer draws near. Sings cuckoo in April, cuckoo in May. Cuckoo in June and then files away."

Variations. Variations:

"And never sings cuckoo till the springtime of the year."
"And when he sings cuckoo the summer is near."
"He drinks the cold water to make his voice clear."
"And he'll come again in the spring of next year."

The sucks the sweet flowers to make his voice clear. That he may sing cuckoo three months in the year. The last two lines in variations are also common in Cornwall. The first two in the north of England in Sussex April 14 is called "first cuckoo day" and is greeted with these complets:

"The cuckoo's a merry bird, &c. She brings us good tidings, &c. She picks up the dirt in the spring of the year, And sucks little birds' eggs, &c."

"When the cuckoo picks up the dirt" a metaphor for the arrival of spring and fair weather—Haz litt's Proceeds, 1882; GEORGE BENTHAM.

ne cuckeo song: I heard it fifteen years ago by an she said she learned it when a girl in Lancashire. England. I asked her who was the author of it or where it was first sung, but she could give me o information on the matter further than that no information on the matter initial man that it was a very old hallad, and was sung in almost every country village in the North of England when she was quite a young girl. As I often heard her sing it, I learned to repeat it and as it is a very catchy air i often find myself humming it, to the present day. As she sung it, it ran as follows:

"As I went a walking one morning in May, I spied a fair maiden, she had lust passed me by; Her age, I assure you, was scarcely sixteen," And all around her hair she wore a laurel of green." My lover loves this pretty girl, he takes her on his knee. He tells her those flattering tales he oftlimes told

ine, But if she believes him, it's not her I'll blame. For not for this wide world would I love him again The cuckoo is a bonnic bird, it sings as it files
It brings us glad tidings and tells us no lies.
It sucks the May flowers to keep its voice clear
And it never whistles cuckoo until summer is near.
My lover sent me a letter, with a bonnic rose in,
I sent him an answer I valued not him, sent him an answer I valued not him, let him keep his bonnie rose and I'll do the same for not for this wide world would I love him again. This was the way she sang it, but as she was un-ole to read or write she may have altered the ords to suit herself, so I cannot youch for this ing the original.

ANDREW BURKE.

HIS MOTHER SAID CHALLENGE. Facts About a Famous and Rather Recent Virginia Duel. From the Washington Post

Perhaps few living men, in this section t least, are so thoroughly conversant with the now obsolete but once favorite method of settling the differences of gentlemen, the duel, in all its many nice points, espe cially as it obtained before and after the Civil War in the Old Dominion, as is ex-Judge W. G. Riley of Virginia. The Judge has himself appeared on the "field of honor" on more than one occasion, both as principal and second for some friend, and he is therefore authority in all matters pertaining to the "duello" as a medium for wiping out an insult to one's personal honor. "The death a few years ago of Capt. Page McCarthy in Richmond," said he, "forcibly

recalls to memory the high standard of honor possessed by the women of the South, and the eagerness with which they sought to avenge a personal insult. The McCarthy-Mordical duel, in which the latter was killed and the former wounded on the field of bonor is more or less familiar to all Virginians But the part in the sad affair which was played been so generally known to the public. The affair occurred over a then celebrated Rich mond beauty, a Miss Triplett, a leader in the aristocrat circles of Richmond, at White Sulphur Springs, and wherever else the beauty and wealth of Virginia happened to ssemble. Nearly all the participants in the affair have now passed away. McCarthy was an exceedingly brilliant young man of literary attainments. Both were lawyers but McCarthy never practised, preferring purnalism to the profession of law Mor ai was a highly talented and, moreover, exceedingly handsome man Both had moved in the highest society

and were social leaders. It was generally known by their friends that young McCarthy and the beautiful Miss Triplett were be trothed before the advent of the band some Hebrew As soon, however, as Mordi cal appeared on the scene it was remarked that the lady treated McCarthy coolly, and it was not long before it was whispered about among their friends that the engagement between Page McCarthy and the belle of Virgina's capital had been broken off, and by the lady. McCarthy took it greatly to heart, and before long there appeared in a publication in Richmond a couplet in which Miss Triplett was alluded to as a coquette and firt, though, of course, not giving her name. Every one at once knew who was meant, as well as knew who the writer was. McCarthy, needless to say, was the author.

Mordical and McCarthy meeting soon after this event, the former rather haughtily inquired of his rival if he was not the author of the couplet in question, and upon McCarthy's refusing to answer, on the ground that Mordical had no authority to demand an answer, the latter knocked McCarthy down, but before any further damage could be done friends of both parties interposed and restrained the two men. McCarthy was physically his antagonist's inferior, but was full of grit. Both were in the full vigor of young manhood. Friends of both men arranged that the matter was to be settled by both parties not again speaking to each other.

"Needless to say that McCarthy chafed." between Page McCarthy and the belle o

men arranged that the matter was to be settled by both parties not again speaking to each other.

"Needless to say that McCarthy chafed under the insult terribly, and in a short time such was the social ostracism visited upon him by the ladies and gentlemen of his acquaintance that he was sorely humiliated and mortified at the open subbing he received. Some weeks later McCarthy entered a Richmond café and there, in unmeasured terms, he denounced Mordicai as a poltroon and a coward. The latter, entering the place while McCarthy was still speaking, asked the latter if he was not speaking harshly of him, Mordicai. Upon McCarthy repeating his insulting language, Mordicai again knocked him down, his eyes being blackened and other injuries being inflicted. Friends again separated them, but the affair had now gone too far to be settled in anyway except on the field of honor.

"Upon his arrival at home young McCarthy

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juries by his mother, a very brave woman and upon his relating the story of his second encounter with Mordical Mrs. McCarthy said o her son.
"Page, this will never do for the McCarthys. You must fight this man.

Said he. Mother, I have retreated in this affair so long that I am afraid no one will carry my challenge to my opponent no one

carry my challenge to my opponent—no one will act as my second.

"If no one else will, said the mother, I will carry it myself. I will be your second."

"She sent for two friends of the family, and the challenge to mortal combat was delivered to Mordical that very night. The old far ground in the western outskirts of Richmond was selected as the place of meeting and the time was set for daybreak the next morning.

ground in the western outskirts of Richmond was selected as the place of meeting and the time was set for daybreak the next morning.

"Promptly at the appointed time both parties, with their seconds and the doctors arrived on the field. A quarter of a mile back from the scene of action, behind a clump of trees, in her coach and unattended except by her two negro servants, sat the intrepid mother of McCarthy. She had come to see her son's honor vindicated, to see the stain upon the McCarthy name wiped out. Her son was apt to fall, to be killed, even. To her an unavenged insult to the family name was worse than death itself. Being away some distance she could not see well, and she had instructed her servants to go forward and hasten to her with the news of the result as soon as shots had been exchanged.

"Mordical, being the challenged party, had selected pistols. As the word to fire was given both men discharged their weapons, but without result. At the second fire however, Mordical fell to the ground mortally wounded in the hip at the second shot. As soon as the men had fired the colored servant hastened to the side of his mistress, exclaiming: 'Mister Mordical am dead and Marse Page is shot in de leg. Hurrying home the fearless mother hastily summoned two surgeons, and when her wounded son arrived she had everything prepared for his safety and comfort. McCarthy was guarded at his home by the authorities until he was well enough to appear in court. He was fined \$500, with the alternative of six months imprisonment. The fine was paid, of course, and Page McCarthy was once again a free man, and the McCarthy name and honor were avenged. It is true, however, that McCarthy ever after seemed weighted down by a melancholy that was as pronounced as it was immovable, and people said that he was never again a happy man."

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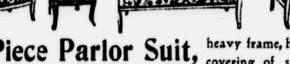
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